

THE LABOUR ORGANISER

No. 80

FEBRUARY, 1928.

Price 4d.

OUT OF THE RUT

IDEAS AND ACTIVITIES IN BRIEF.

The East Lewisham Labour Party issued a very tasteful souvenir book in connection with their Annual Labour Fair held on the 16th and 17th December. We understand that the fair and annual draw brought in £200—not a bad accomplishment. Evidently the Party now possesses the sort of material that achieves success in both big and little things. Heartiest wishes for the big thing.

On the same two days the Coventry Labour Party got into its stride with a "Labour Fayre." Here again a tasteful souvenir, with a nice lot of advertisements contributed to the success. The profits we understand (not yet finally ascertained) are nearly £300. A combined admission and draw ticket was used and this alone brought in £120. In response to our request for details our friend, Mr. G. E. Hodgkinson, the Labour agent, says:—

"Our experience has been that if a bazaar is to reach big figures steady work must be engaged in throughout the year. Many of our sections and committees had earned as much before the bazaar opened as they did at the bazaar itself.

"The object of this bazaar as you will have noted from the programme was for the organisation fund of the Party to enable the General Municipal Elections in March and April, 1928, to be adequately financed. This, I think, we have accomplished though we have a tremendous task and could do with all the cash we can get. We have 50 candidates, so you may guess our problem.

"I may say that the programme we produced was paid for entirely out of ads. and cost the Party not one cent. We know it could be improved upon, but we cut our coat according to the cloth.

"As a result of bazaar effort in three successive years we now have a Parliamentary Fund of £440, and a Municipal Election Fund of £250, £25 being

left at the moment in the bazaar a/c, to give the committee a start for the 1928 bazaar, which will be held on the two days; December 7th and 8th."

The Durham Federation of Labour Parties (secretary, Mr. J. W. Foster, "Rosendale," Neville's Cross, Durham), who at the County Council Elections are defending a Labour majority with a magnificent record, has again evidenced its zeal and enterprise by the issue of several attractive leaflets for the use of its constituent bodies, and a suggested form of election address for the candidates. With these excellent samples comes a budget of good things sent at local Labour's request by that indefatigable aider and abettor of Labour victories, Mr. T. Summerbell, printer, of 10 Green Street, Sunderland. This time there are several additional novelties, including a bordered handbill, illustrated pollcard, special posters and a final use-it-like-this "urge." There is bound to be a rush on this sort of stuff and we advise a telegram, preferably to a letter, direct to Mr. Summerbell.

One lives and learns. Visiting the offices of the Gloucester Labour Party recently we were puzzled concerning a new type of office machine prominently in view, viz., a specimen of the common or garden variety of domestic sewing machine. Half fearfully enquiring the cause of this intrusion we were presented by Mr. J. H. Round, the Labour agent, with the 12 pp. balance sheet of the Party (a fine year's record) duplicated and neatly stitched along the back. To supplement this illustration of domestic economy we saw several illustrations of how the humble sewing machine was used to perforate tearoffs, counterfoils, etc., and ballot papers for the E.C. elections. We are anxious not to take the responsibility of this tip being extensively copied, and so we have named the author to whom please address communications and feminine protests.

ALL LABOUR AGENTS

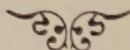
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THE SECRETARY'S PAGE

HELPS AND HINTS IN SEASON.

In another part of this issue will be found an article on "Preparation for the General Election." We are not alone in believing that the Labour Party throughout the country is not yet awake to the deadly struggle even now commencing in the constituencies, and which will rage with unceasing and unparalleled intensity between now and the next general poll. Labour enters the list with a heavy handicap, due to its impoverished exchequer and the financial unpreparedness of its local Parties. But we want to urge that there is time to remedy this if the movement will awake to the urgent need for funds. Lancaster notwithstanding, victory is in sight if we only get ready. Lancaster showed what brass (of two kinds) can accomplish at elections, and there seems plenty more in the direction from whence that astonishing result was engineered. But sneer as we may at the influence of wealth we ourselves cannot fight elections without a price. We must pay for the services and the publicity we require; we must pay for the truth to be disseminated; the meetings we want, the paraphernalia and the panoply with which we will carry the flag to victory. Those evil counsellors in our ranks who are saying "the money will come when the election is here" are worse than foolish. They have failed to realise that the election is here; that the long shots are already being exchanged.

True it is the national E.C. have issued an appeal. We are afraid something more is needed. Not the least being a realisation by the whole movement of the perils of delay in intensifying the propaganda and preparation in the constituencies. And the money? We are profoundly convinced that membership campaigns ought to be launched at once, and where they have begun, be intensified ten and twenty fold. That's where the money and the votes *ought* to come from. As for national finances we pray for a bigger vision nationally and locally of the financial possibilities before our Party. But for heaven's sake let's begin!

The immediate work to-day is the local elections. There is still time and

room for more candidates. These elections in county constituencies provide an excellent try-out for one's election organisation, and even in the boroughs the Guardians elections ought to keep the machine from going rusty. Let us trot out those candidates. In rural and county council areas one meets again and again the old cry that one cannot get candidates because of the expense of attending meetings of the authority many miles from home. It is amusing how success is contemplated when giving a reason for not standing even in the most hopeless of places. But what of our race of pioneers? The Party wants men to-day in such places who are ready to fight for fighting's sake. A beginning must be made; a vote polled that is our rock-bottom; a minimum on which we build and never go back. It is an exercise for our army. Are not many more willing for this sake?

On another page we make an offer concerning certain past numbers of the "L.O.," which contained useful tips on fighting Local Government Elections. We have only a limited supply of these back numbers (which each contain much more instructive matter), but it will be a case of first come first served.

We heard quite a good point put the other day concerning 1/- a year membership. As our readers well know we have a poor opinion of this membership as a paying basis for a Party's finance. But we heard with interest how a large membership of this kind was worked, not so much for its subscriptions as such as to provide the machinery for running all sorts of successful money-raising functions. Then, if a draw or bazaar was in contemplation the first people to hear about it would be the members. Each would receive a nice little intimation, covering probably the enclosure of some books or tickets, thanking them for their past endeavours, etc., and announcing the thing on foot. This was done regularly and every time regardless of the fact that the member's actual subscription was swallowed up in postage and sundries. It paid, and the membership appreciated it, and
(Concluded on Page 30.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

Correspondents are required to give their full name and address, not, however, necessarily for publication. Replies from general correspondents cannot be given through the post. It is imperative that where a reply depends on a statement of fact (such, for instance, as qualification of an elector to be on the register), the fullest information should be given.

Question: An allotment holder is registered for a Municipal vote, which, owing to him having another vote in the Borough, is starred. Is he entitled to use that vote at a by-election for the Ward in which the allotment is situated?

Answer: Our correspondent raises a question the answer to which most Labour agents can give out of experience, but the legal authority concerning which has become somewhat involved.

Section 51 of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, reads as follows:—

"(1) At an election of councillors a person shall be entitled to subscribe a nomination paper, and to demand and receive a voting paper, and to vote, if he enrolled in the burgess roll, or, in the case of a ward election, the ward roll, and not otherwise.

(2) No person shall subscribe a nomination paper in or for more than one ward, or vote in more than one ward."

Now the words we have italicised were repealed by the First Schedule to the Representation of the People Act, 1918. But this was because the 1882 Act had been applied to other elections and it was desired, while continuing the prohibition in boroughs, to remove it in other Local Government areas. This was done by Section 8 (2) of the R.P. Act, though, perhaps, not in such clear language as not to leave an element of ambiguity. Read:

"A person registered as a local government elector for any local government electoral area shall while so registered (and in the case of a woman notwithstanding sex or marriage) be entitled to vote at a local government election for that area, but where, for the purposes of election, any such area is divided into more than one ward or electoral division, by whatever name called, a person shall not be entitled

to vote for more than one such ward or electoral division.

"Notwithstanding anything in this provision a person may be registered for more than one such ward or division of a local government electoral area (not being a municipal borough), and may vote in any such ward or division for which he is registered at an election to fill a casual vacancy."

The persistent questioner may argue that the words repealed are not in so many words re-enacted. But this is not so. The words in the first paragraph are clear enough, and it is only by taking the second paragraph by itself, remembering the repeal, and concluding that the paragraph is only an extension of the repeal that anyone can go wrong.

And if more is needed then the instructions to the Registration Officer are clear enough. Registration Rule 23 says:

"The Registration Officer . . . shall make any such corrections in those lists by way of the removal of duplicate entries . . . the placing of marks or the correction of marks . . . as he thinks necessary in order to secure that no person is registered as a parliamentary elector in respect of more than one qualification in the same constituency, or as a local government elector in respect of more than one qualification:

(a) in the same borough for the purpose of borough council election; or

(b) in the same electoral division or ward for the purpose of county council elections; or

(c) in the same parish or ward of a parish for the purpose of rural district council, guardians, or parish elections; and otherwise to make those lists complete.

That Relief Question.

Question: Is a person who has received relief on loan during the mining crisis of 1926, and has not repaid that loan, eligible for election to a Board of Guardians direct, or to a Rural District Council which carries with it a seat on a Board of Guardians?

Answer: This question has recently been repeatedly asked us and apparently the Head Office of the Labour Party has been besieged by the same query. We cannot do better than quote a leaderette on the same subject which appeared in "The Labour Magazine":

"In view of the approach of Local Government Elections in March and April next, many inquiries are being received at Labour Party Headquarters concerning disqualifications that may arise because of the receipt of Poor Law Relief on loan or otherwise during the miners' lock-out in 1926. The following information, therefore, appears to be of considerable importance and should be made as widely known as possible. In regard to County Councils, the receipt of Poor Law Relief under any circumstances is no longer a disqualification for candidates or for members. In regard to Urban District Councils and Parish Councils, under Section 46 of the Local Government Act, 1894, the receipt of Poor Law Relief within twelve months prior to an election is a disqualification as a candidate for or as a member. If, however, no relief has been received since 1926, persons who received relief during that year will be qualified to become candidates in April next.

"As in the case of Urban District Councils and Parish Councils under Section 46 of the Local Government Act, 1894, the receipt of Poor Law Relief within twelve months prior to an election is a disqualification as a candidate for or a member of a Board of Guardians or a Rural District Council. If the relief received in 1926 was given without conditions regarding repayment, and no relief has been received since that year, a person who received relief will be qualified as a candidate in April next. The receipt of relief on loan during the year 1926, and the non-repayment of that loan by the time nominations are due in 1928, may cause a disqualification for candidates for a Board of Guardians or a Rural District Council. The disqualification arises not because of the receipt of relief during the year 1926 but because the non-repayment of the relief may constitute a contract with the Board of Guardians, and therefore bring a person within paragraph E of Sub-section 1 of Section 46 of the Local Government Act, 1894. This contract will, however, only disqualify a person as a candidate for a Board of Guardians or for a Rural District Council. As there is no contract with an Urban District Council, a Parish Council, or a County Council, the non-repayment of relief granted on loan in 1926 will not constitute a disqualification for these bodies. In view

of the importance of the subject local Parties ought to meet as early as possible and make arrangements if necessary to clear the indebtedness of persons to Board of Guardians where it is essential in the interests of the Party that certain persons should become candidates."

Stamp for Contributions.

Question: Could you please acquaint us with the firm that supplies adhesive stamps for membership contributions. We have decided to commence the stamp system in collecting members' weekly contributions.

Answer: Our correspondent could not do a better thing for his Party than which he proposes. The Blackfriars Press, Ltd. (printers of the "Labour Organiser") of 17-23 Albion Street, Leicester, can supply the adhesive perforated sheets of stamps to order. A good idea is to print the sheets in 1d. and 4d. issues of 10/- and £2 value, respectively. Booking in and out is thereby simplified and "licking the stamps" becomes less of a task in the case of monthly subscribers.

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OFFICE HELPS AND HINTS

The average Local Labour Party office stands sadly in need to-day of a strong breath of something bringing new ideas and business methods into its being. The frozzy talking shops of so many Labour Parties are the last places in which to do really efficient work, and a sense is badly needed not only of the profound importance to the Party of a satisfactory clerical machine, but of the necessity to supply it with modern devices and the things necessary for rapid and creditable work. If the Party is to govern its own affairs in becoming manner, and to create for itself that place in national affairs to which it aspires, it must forsake the prevalent idea of many localities that the local office is a gratis clubroom. The movement must provide clean offices and more equipment. In a Party in which the ideas of manual labour predominate so frequently the clerical necessities of the movement have largely become obscured, to our great loss and the enemy's gain. Before every Party lies a series of functions implying extensive clerical work only now beginning to be understood. We have lagged behind in this matter, and our chain of Labour offices is only feebly representative of the great electoral influence the Party possesses—and wants to hold. We believe there is a great field for extension and a great field for equipment. But Local Parties must put the money bogey in their pockets. The money problem *can be solved*. But it isn't money always that stands in the way of efficiency. It is the lack of knowledge and appreciation of the importance of this side of our work. In the notes under the above heading we shall from time to time endeavour to help those who desire their offices to become the aids to organisation that they should be.

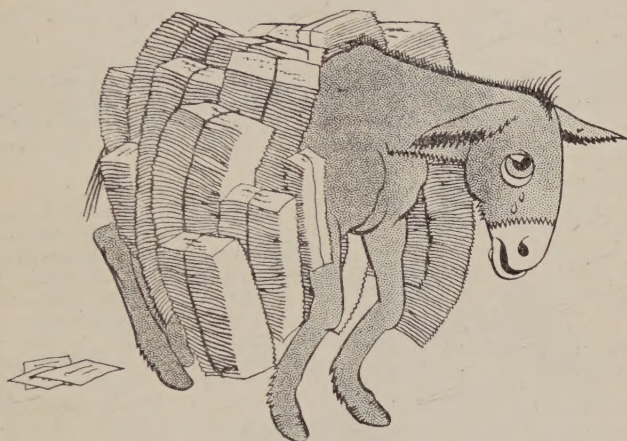
More than once we have expressed our opinion that the use of loose leaf books could, with advantage, be more wide-spread among Labour Secretaries. Loose leaf books are admirable for minutes, enabling those for a reasonable period being always available, instead of meeting the not-infrequent trouble that minutes are not available at a meeting because a new book has begun. We also favour the loose leaf system

for registration canvasses—one sheet to a house. With occasional additions and changes the loose leaf street canvass book lasts for years. Pocket loose leaf books are also an advantage over the ordinary note-book. Some national organisers of our acquaintance use this system to carry with them the vital details of the areas they visit.

The "Twinlock" series of loose leaf books are a cheap and handy quality stocked by Messrs. Cheshire and Sons, Ltd., Kidderminster. The loose leaves are stocked in several useful rulings, though the feint and headline ruling seems to most suit registration needs. There is a full series of account rulings. The "Twinlock" locking device is quick and simple, and a 5 inch. by 8 inch. binder with 200 sheets costs only 11/3. Extra sheets are 2/- per 100.

Elaborate card indexing methods have for several reasons not been extensively adopted in the Labour Party, though several beginnings have been made in progressive constituencies. Most Secretaries, however, keep a card index of sorts. Sometimes it is no more than the counterfoils of members' application cards, but in other cases really creditable beginning have been made of a sound system of recording and classifying members, delegates, ward workers, etc. The value of coloured tabs or signals might be better known. A tab or signal is really a little device for bringing to the eye a particular card or cards. The best signals are little steel clips which grip the card and project a little above it, so signalling its special individuality. Signals are of different colours and one allots a distinction to each colour. Thus in a card index of members if one desires to distinguish the members of the General Committee the cumbersome way would be to write another lot of cards, but by tabbing the Committee their cards are distinguishable and may be picked out whenever required. So a card system, arranged and indexed in Ward order, may be extended in use by tabbing in different colours various persons of sundry categories. The members who pay annual subscriptions can be "signalled" for their particular month for payment. For this purpose tabs are obtainable printed with the

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OFFICE HELPS & HINTS continued

names of the months. The Secretary who has once begun to tab will continue the practice.

For the man in the office a "work-organiser" of some sort is a really essential thing. The work organiser doesn't do the work; it merely organises it, and enables concentration to be made on the particular task in hand. The device we name is something more than a mere office aid to tidiness. It works psychologically. The untidy desk with a dozen things before one all wanting doing, some at once, and some sometime, is a fruitful source of distraction. The wrong job gets begun first, half finished jobs multiply, and concentration on the one job needed is made difficult. The up-to-date, and the efficient, office is *not* that which is littered with evidences of the owner's varied jobs-in-hand. It is often that which shows little evidence of any work at all!

The work organiser, then, is just a device to classify and arrange jobs. Essentially it is a simple thing, though suppliers of office fittings can put you up with a desk which is the last word in work dissection. But all work organisers cause one to practice one essential in common, *i.e.*, self-discipline. Half-a-dozen folders may suffice to organise one man's desk work, or on the other hand some of our readers may require a proprietary outfit on more ambitious lines. Our own system will best explain the uses of the work organiser. On our desk there are no loose papers. We have, however, an extending folder with over thirty flaps. Normally, this is extended and as the morning letters come in matters are inserted under the date they will need attention—Monday, Tuesday, etc., etc., 1st inst. to 31st inst., as the case may be. But there are also other folders. These analyze *to-day's* work, Labour Party, "L.O.," Agents' Association and general correspondence requiring answers: references to records, cash letters, etc., etc. Each job is then taken in turn and no other file of papers is brought into view. Cash comes first, next "references," *i.e.*, searches for previous correspondence and files wanted before a letter can be answered, legal queries requiring verification, etc. Correspondence comes third because the necessary documents

and enclosures are now ready, but each *class* of correspondence is taken in turn and no other.

Now applying the above system to an ordinary Secretary's office, it follows the details are somewhat different but the principle is the same. One sorts the work. Booking first, then to-day's correspondence, correspondence for one's committee, letters instructed by committee, etc., etc. And one always does *one job at a time*; no other is allowed to muddle the office and distract attention.

So many live secretaries now send out periodical duplicated reports running to several sheets, or even duplicated news-sheets, that the matter of a good stapler for binding becomes of importance. The well-known Hotchkiss stapler, and like models serve, of course, for most office purposes in fastening correspondence, and similar papers. It is, however, hardly the thing for the larger purpose. Here a good wire stapler is required capable of fast feeding. We used for a long period a wire stapler with ready-made refills. A better device is, of course, the machine which is fed from a coil. Such machines may be obtained either hand or treadle (or even power), but the hand stapler is cheaper and serves practically all the purposes of a Labour secretary needing such an outfit. A tip for all staplers, however, is that when they clog they do so because they need oil. A little typewriter oil occasionally will save all that jamming just when the machine is wanted most.

In dozens of Labour offices on one day a month there is a busy scene as the local monthly Labour paper comes in from the printers and is bundled up for despatch to the local secretaries. At other intervals literature dispatches take place, and one wonders at the use of string in such places, when at very little extra cost advertising tape could be used boosting the Party. The "L.O." is only sent out tied with string when the parcels are too bulky to trust to tape. And our red and gold tape more or less consciously impresses the recipient—at least we hope so, and we would like an extended use of such publicity devices. A supplier of advertising tape is Payne and Sons, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

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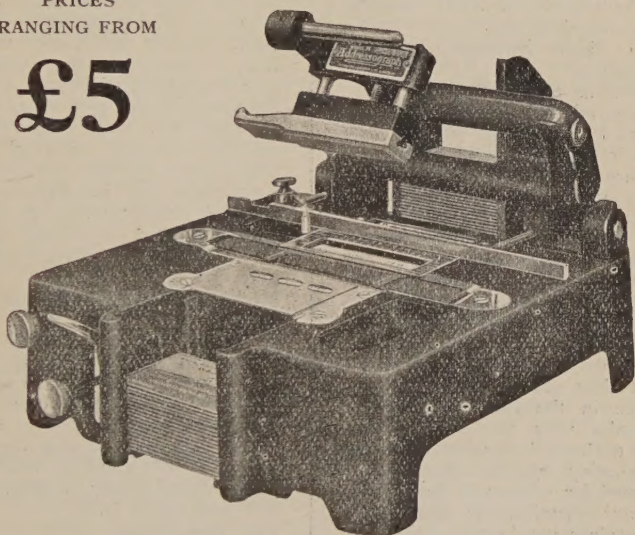
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IMPORTANT NEW SERIES.

Preparation for the General Election

By THE EDITOR.

ARTICLE I.

The following article is the substance of an address given by the Editor of the "Labour Organiser," Mr. H. Drinkwater, at a recent meeting of agents, secretaries, ward and similar officials, held in Birmingham. The meeting, which was largely attended, was the first of a series intended to cater for a large mixed area embracing about thirty Midland constituencies. At the request of the meeting the addresses given at these meetings will be published in the "L.O."—with, of course, slight revisions, excisions or enlargements.

The Battle is Beginning.

It is generally agreed the next General Election will be the most critical and vital in the history of our Party. Ahead there is victory; but there are also some poignant possibilities. The next Election symbolises the hopes of countless thousands who trust that it will herald coming changes and an end to the era of reaction. But whether hope will be gratified, or deferred, bringing our undoing, depends in peculiar degree on the key people who read these lines and on the preparations that they make.

A glance in the first place at the enemy ranks may not be unfitting. Was ever a General Election so calmly and deliberately approached, prepared and schemed for with such deadly purpose by our enemies, as the coming one? Certainly not in our time. On the Government side we see a long series of legislative and administrative acts designed to cripple our movement. Presumably, these acts are to be crowned with a jerrymandering of the franchise and the constitution, plus a last minute financial bribe to three or four classes of Government supporters. And in the constituencies the Tory machine has in very few places been allowed to rust or lie idle.

The Liberals are equally active. Debauched and demoralised as that Party may be with the golden stores of Lloyd George's plunder, it can, even in its final degenerative stages, rally an unexpected strength in places, to our confusion, and it can and is pay-

ing more for organisation and propaganda than either of the two other Parties.

But it is the long drawn out and deliberate nature of all these preparations to which I want to draw attention. The fool in our ranks thinks it is time to prepare when the dissolution is announced. Perhaps he is thinking of recent General Elections, for, as I have pointed out, no recent "General" was heralded so far ahead. In 1918 we had a snatch election. In 1922 the election after all came unexpectedly with a break-up of the Coalition and a new disposition of Parties upsetting all the preparations any Party had made. In 1923 Mr. Bonar Law's "suicide" election was only equalled in its unexpectedness by the 1924 election called just when the best-informed persons believed Labour would go on into the following year. Let those who believe that because Labour rallied at the final hour in each of the above elections remember to-day's dissimilarity of circumstance. An united Liberal Party and an united Tory Party both appreciate that a Labour Government *in power* would soon make itself so popular that it would hardly be turned out. And they have had warning at the by-elections. They are laying the traps and the bait. We must get this job of preparation under way at once, or we may live and regret it.

The First Step.

If I were faced with an election in any constituency to-morrow the first thing I should ask would be about the condition of the Ward and Polling District machinery. This is the first essential thing. Yes, I know all about it; there are Ward Committees and you have in this Division, or, that, *some* Polling District Committees. How many of these are nice little coteries of comrades as far removed from real contact with the electors as the House of Lords is from Heaven? The estimable half-a-dozen are not the committees I mean.

Constituencies are of all sorts and sizes. But there is one principle of organisation governing all of them. It

is that a committee must function for the smallest unit into which each area is divided. Even more, the atom must be split, and the ideal to aim at is a personal responsibility for the organisation of each street or group of houses. The nearer to this ideal an organisation is developed the more certain of success will the Party be.

But all this doesn't mean confusion and divided authority. Nothing of the sort. It just means that because we have been divided into small geographical areas for political purposes, and because we can only vote in these geographical areas we have to adapt our organisation so as to find units to man them. To develop these units and reach the voters personally is a local job which local people can accomplish best.

There is no space here to detail all the exact financial and other relations that should exist between local committees and their respective centres. A polling district committee in a County Division may be virtually a Local Labour Party and in a town it may be just a sub-division of a ward committee which in itself is subsidiary both to a Divisional and a Central Borough Party. Commonsense guides the relationships; the tail mustn't wag the dog, nor must the dog chew his tail to stop it wagging. What is said below concerning the *functions* of the little committees may clear the air in this respect.

No "Paper" Organisations.

But beware of paper organisation. The way to set about forming committees is to summon together all known sympathisers in the area being organised. If there are no known people to summon or if people won't come the only remedy is personal visitation. Drawing up a ward and polling district organisation on paper is not a difficult task. But paper committees are worse than a deception. *A Ward or P.D. Committee must meet.* Only by this test can one prove its existence, and when it meets it has abundant business to discuss. The meetings should, if possible, be held in members' houses. This costs nothing and is usually more productive of that neighbourly contact and atmosphere which imparts strength to such committees.

And now for the functions and uses of local committees, for what has been

said may not have been convincing to those prejudiced against local development, or to those on whom past failures have imposed discouragement. I shall henceforth in this article use the term local committees. A Divisional Party may be likened to a telephone exchange. It has attached to it trunk lines to headquarters, and it has its local Parties, who are the district exchanges. But the local committees correspond to the subscribers. Through these live wires one reaches the homes of the people.

Now there are two sides to constituency preparation. There is the preparatory work among the electors, best done by the local committees, and there is the central preparatory work done by the Divisional Party, through its agent, if it has one, or its officers. The latter functions I shall deal with in due course. The work of the local committees is first to meet—if only two or three—and then to discuss the preparations *in their area*.

It is not the local committees' work to discuss how the main campaign shall be planned—that is the business of the centre—but it is their business to discuss how the highest poll for Labour shall be obtained *in their area*, how workers shall be obtained, to respond to central appeals and advice, and carry out instructions, to plan the canvasses and the distribution of literature, to collect desired information, possibly to steward meetings, to seek committee rooms, to provide the man and woman-power on polling day, and to make suggestions as to how their area may be further developed. How foolish Local Parties are who, sitting in a central room, think that all these problems can be solved over the heads of locals. These are all essentially local problems and if the locals are not known it is the first business of a Party to find them.

Committees at Work.

Probably the first task of a local committee would be to increase its own members. I have said this needs visitation, but near neighbours are the very best people for such work. Make lists of those you know who attend Labour meetings, or buy tickets of you for Party functions. Visit these people and strengthen the bonds. Some will come in.

Next let your local committee study the register for their area. Never stint registers. Local committees of all people should know their register from A to Z. That's where registration claims will come from, but it also means bringing to mind the forgotten sympathetic voter. It means that presently a scheme will evolve for somebody being responsible for every part of that register, and it means workers familiarised with the electorate and knowing their ground on polling day.

I am not keen on turning local committee meetings into educational functions, study and speakers' classes, etc. Public propaganda meetings arranged through them, if you like, but the function of a local committee is to reach and germinate the local electorate. Central functions ought not to be thrust at them. Use the committees, of course, for membership campaigns, but beware of letting your local committees occupy their time principally in collecting subscriptions. That is collectors' work, and it is not the happiest idea to turn local committees into mere machines for raising money.

Preparation Lessens Cost.

Now, there are many ways in which the prior existence of local committees cheapens costs at an election. Nothing is so fruitful of election wastage as want of knowledge of local needs or local information. Local people can say what halls to book, and the price they can get them at. They save the cost of much unnecessary enquiry. They avoid the cost of bill distribution, they can give a quick and cheap window show and so save much bill-posting; and central clerical work is much reduced by their work.

Take the instance of committee rooms. An earnest local committee giving attention well in time to how they will manage for a committee room during the election will again and again solve the question for themselves without expense to the election fund. Faced with a coming problem it is amazing how the man or woman whose interest has been aroused will rise to the occasion. How much of this sacrifice is lost to us because the spirit is not aroused till election time, and then we are either too busy to learn of it, or discover it too late! The local committee *faced with its problems* will do wonders in providing the machine and workers on polling day.

Preparation must be talked of in the meetings; and if this is done self-reliance will develop—and triumph. Local committees mobilise on polling day not only voters, *but whole families*, all contributing their share, young and old, to the swelling Labour tide.

Of course, Dismal Jimmy will say "we've tried all that, and it hasn't done us a ha'porth of good." No, dear Dismal, because *you* are in the way. Cannot you find us *one new member* for the Party before you take a holiday? It isn't Tories who will delay the New Social Order so much as our faithless, hopeless and spineless Dismal Jimmies. Try that wheeze on them, one new member from their introduction, then a holiday. Most Parties that "can't" do things want new blood. Try and find it. Don't decide on things before you've found it. We want optimists, men and women of faith and vision. Let the pessimist, ever chewing the cud of our failures in the early days and our disappointments in the slump years, feel the scorch of a bigger faith, and the simple things I have pointed to will be possible.

* * *

Personal Preparation.

Now I am appreciative of the fact that those who read this article (and also those who attended the above-referred-to meeting) are drawn from the class who at the next General Election will mostly hold important executive posts. The Labour front will require over 500 election agents, hundreds more sub-agents, and literally thousands of central and local captains and commanders of higher or less degree. We have a problem in man and woman power. And the fight will be tenser, the needed skill greater, and the problem and the electorate much bigger than ever before. I am going to leave the main trend of my remarks on preparation, returning to it again, in order to address myself to the insistent and urgent matter I have mentioned. How may all these men and women fit themselves better for the burden of the battle? For upon the officers rests a terrible burden of responsibility to all our movement, and to that hoping, expectant electorate outside.

I am going to address a few words on the preparation of these commissioned ranks, and the personal preparation of the individual.

Already the Labour Party has urged the appointment of election agents. These persons cannot be too soon put in touch with their future tasks. And while this is being done the appointed agents, and those in posts of executive responsibility should leave no stone uncovered to afford personal training and opportunities for familiarity with their work to all those lesser ranks who will partake in the great attack. I am profoundly opposed to those who conceive of organisation or electioneering as a closed book to be the practice or the fetish of a few, while the great army merely falls in and follows on. I conceive of our great victories as soldiers' battles won by the rank and file of an intelligent army; not the work of an over-awed and instructed body of workers urged on by the medicine-man. Agents' tasks will be lighter, and their success and their future be brighter in proportion to the number of trained workers in their constituencies. The man who can co-ordinate the work of a team of trained and educated workers, need never fear his job. He will always be wanted. But the fetish-man, and the medicine man—well Labour won't stop for them.

Let us then extend the facilities for training. Is it flippant here to mention the "Labour Organiser" and appeal for more sales? At 4/6 a year to the individual, or 2/9 a month for 12 copies (paid in advance) to Local Parties, the "L.O." is the cheapest guide to electioneering on the market. And it is the only practical and up-to-date one. Law books are needed for the election agent himself, but the great bulk of the Party need only know generally what may legally be done or what may not be done.

For further advice I will imagine myself in the position of the average worker unable to get special training and I shall try and suggest such means as anyone may adopt to make himself a better election asset.

Some Things Worth Knowing.

First then, a man ought to know his constituency thoroughly, intimately and exhaustively. And yet many fail at this first bar, in their own constituency. Let us see what I would like to know about a constituency:— its population, its electorate, details of its register, its political history, its de-

tailed geography, its contour, its transit facilities, its get-at-ability all round; its peoples' taste and traditions, the local influences; its public places, its open spaces; its industries, how people get to work, and when they leave off; its halls, its schools; its big bugs; its clubs; the state of the other parties, their leaders, their activities and strong areas, etc., etc. How many people can give all this information about their constituency; and there's lots more, all of which counts. The moral is then that a man should seek to make himself the repository of all there is to be known about his area. How he must seek to impress his own individuality upon it we will leave to another day.

There are two or three additional tips worth noting. Every coming agent, or sub-agent, every secretary, should gather some knowledge about printing. Here a little knowledge goes a long way in saving costs. The different standard sizes of paper and their divisions are worth remembering. Most of our printing is "letterpress" work, but secretaries who know something of what can or cannot be done by simple processes are at an advantage. Printing has a habit of going "up" at election times. A printer will do a job at ordinary times in a hurry and charge a reasonable price. But at election times a printer, even if he doesn't do the job in a hurry, thinks he is entitled to a much higher price. He fancies the election fund is fair plunder. The plain name for this is robbery, and regretfully we have to confess that we have many printers addicted to this crime. Therefore get to know the prices of all sorts of printing, *and collect the names of all printers in the locality*. Competition is a good thing on occasions.

Next we advise collecting election samples, addresses, poll cards, window cards, news-sheets, skeleton bills and posters, handbills, etc. Also collect canvass cards and the prices for same. If access can be had to an experienced electioneer's canvass and method of recording same all the better. In short get to know all you can about elections.

And now I can draw together the threads of my main theme and the threads of my digression. For the next thing for everybody is *The Register*.

Using the Register.

In reply to my enquiry as to the Register, I am often told, "Yes, we've got it" or "Yes, the wards have got it," and there the matter often seems to have ended. What on earth is the Register for but to be used? How many use it to get the really essential facts about their own Party?

First of all we want an analysis of the register, and a tabular statement of it. This statement should show the number of voters in each area, male and female separately. The statement should give the number of Parliamentary and the number of Local Government voters separately. Some starred voters require special enumeration.

The full time agent will, of course, probably have all this and be able to supplement it with information as to the number of new voters in each district—sometimes information worth making special use of. Records carefully kept will disclose more useful information about the Register—such as the districts where removals are most frequent, etc., but this needn't trouble us now. Suffice it that we must know who the voters are and how they are distributed.

Now as to the use of the Register in preparation for the General Election. Many Parties (and even agents) fail somehow to keep a marked register. Yet the marked register is the absolute basis of scientific and consistent organisation. It tells you infallibly where your strength lies, where the weakness lies, it shows up mercilessly your lack of impression on the constituency and it warms you and encourages you as you see the signs of expansion reflected in its markings as the months go by.

The marked Register is as the term implies a register utilised for the purpose of containing markings against the names of electors recording some important fact concerning them. Thus we may mark all known supporters with an "X," an individual member with an additional "I" or a known opponent with an "O." Additional information may be recorded such as "Co." for Co-operative member, "N.U.R." for a member of that Union and so on.

But we must leave till next month exactly how this works, and how the marked register may be used, entirely

with voluntary work, as one of the most effective means for strengthening the Party and impelling it along right lines leading to success.

We hope next month to conclude this article after outlining the many other steps that may be taken in preparation, prior to drawing the actual plans for the election itself.

(To be continued.)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS. THREE MOST USEFUL ARTICLES

on this subject appeared in Nos. 58, 59 and 61 of the "L.O." These articles treat of all types of local Government Elections. We have not felt justified in reprinting, but we will send a copy of each of the above numbers to the first 30 applicants sending 9d. to cover cost of postage, etc.

Send 9d. now;

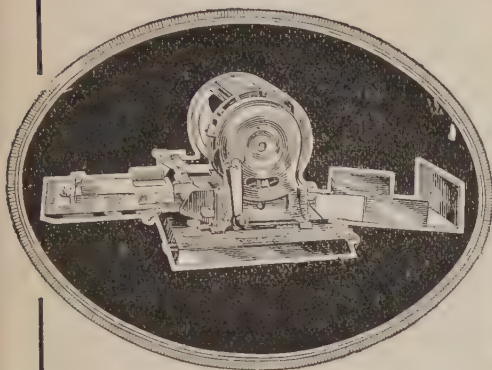
only 30 sets available.

THE LABOUR ORGANISER,
Fernhill Heath, Worcestershire

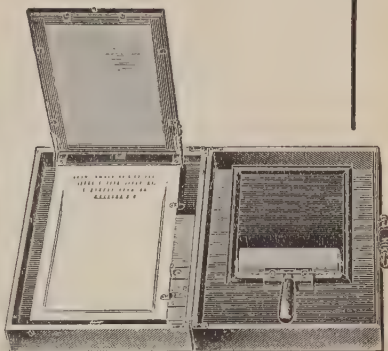
(Concluded from Page 19.)

some at any rate grumbled if overlooked with anything that was afoot. Altogether there is point and interest in the method adopted, though, of course, we still adhere to our belief that membership fees ought to produce an actuarially sound basis on which to finance a Party. The suggestion, however, has value whatever the subscription paid and members ought to know what is going on.

The Accrington Trades and Labour Party has just accomplished a useful piece of work by distributing 20,000 copies of an 8-page pamphlet written by Charles Roden Buxton, the prospective candidate. The pamphlet is couched in the sort of homely phraseology that appeals to the hearts of Lancashire people and it tells the simple story of Labour's achievements and Labour's objects. We note that a membership campaign is taking place. There are at present 1,300 members and an endeavour is afoot to make a further impression on Labour's big poll of 18,000 votes.



The machine illustrated above is Ellams "K" model Rotary, which from one original, either hand or typewritten, will produce thousands of copies at the rate of 100 per minute, by simply turning a handle. The feeding of the paper, printing, stacking, and even counting, is done entirely automatically. Each copy is an exact facsimile of the original. It is specially designed so as to be sufficiently simple in operation to enable any junior member of the Office staff to use it without previous experience. The price of this machine, complete with all accessories, ready for immediate use, is 32 guineas.



The above apparatus is Ellams Diaphragm Duplicator, a very much simpler model, differently arranged. The rate of production of copies, however, is slower, namely, about 15 copies per minute. This apparatus is advocated where runs of anything up to 100 copies are required. It may be used for a greater number of copies, but where over 100 copies are frequently called for the Rotary model is recommended. The price of the Diaphragm model is £6 10s., at which figure no organisation, however small, can afford to be without one. Both models will print any size up to 8" x 13".

ELLAM'S
DUPLICATOR
COMPANY LIMITED

12, KING STREET, CHEAPSIDE
LONDON, E.C. 2

THE LAYMAN'S GUIDE TO THE FRANCHISE

By THE EDITOR.

ARTICLE IV.—THE WOMEN FRANCHISES.—THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT VOTE.

(The object of the following series of articles is to provide the ordinary Labour worker or ward and polling district official with a simple and authoritative statement of the law concerning the Franchise.)

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT, 1918 (Section 4).

(3)—A woman shall be entitled to be registered as a local government elector for any local government electoral area—

- (a) where she would be entitled to be so registered if she were a man; and
- (b) where she is the wife of a man who is entitled to be so registered in respect of premises in which they both reside, and she has attained the age of thirty years and is not subject to any legal incapacity.

Note 1. IF SHE WERE A MAN. The franchise here conferred is exactly that outlined in our second article. It is the only vote at present obtainable by a woman at 21 years of age. But she must actually have attained the age of 21 and not be subject to any legal incapacity. Once registered this vote (differently to the Parliamentary vote) is free from any restriction not imposed upon men.

Note 2. WHERE SHE IS THE WIFE, ETC. The dependability of the vote in this case is on marriage to a man qualified in a specified degree. Though the Registration Officer has no power under the Act to require the production of a marriage certificate (as he has power to require a birth certificate) an objection supported by proof that a claimant was not legally married would be fatal to a vote. The onus of proof is on the claimant in a new claim, but on the objector to a vote already registered.

Note 3. ENTITLED TO BE SO REGISTERED. That is to say the husband must not merely be registered. He must be entitled to be registered, and a successful objection to the husband's vote may be fatal to the wife's. But it is not necessary that the husband should actually be on the register. Provided he is entitled to be registered his accidental omission from the register will not deprive the wife of her vote. "So registered" means as a Local Government Elector.

Note 4. PREMISES IN WHICH THEY BOTH RESIDE. This term constitutes a very distinct limitation to the number of women who may be registered. In previous articles we indicated that the men's Local Government Franchise is nowhere dependent on residence. "Occupation," an altogether different thing, is the term used. But for the wife's franchise she herself must not only reside in the premises which qualify her husband, but he must be there with her. Residence, of course, is subject to the same definitions and interpretations to those we have referred to when dealing with the men's franchise. Constructive residence and broken residence are both possible within the limits previously explained.

One must be careful not to confuse the requirement of dual residence with what is known as "joint" occupation. This is an entirely different thing. For the purposes of the present section the husband must "occupy" and "reside"; the wife merely "resides."

Note 5. THE AGE OF THIRTY YEARS. This is the same age as that specified for a Parliamentary vote. Thus two distinct ages are imposed for the women's Local Government Franchise. A woman possessing a qualification that would entitle her if she were a "man" gets a vote at full age, i.e., 21, but the mere wife waits till she is 30. In actual practice many women get on the register before they are entitled to (because of "sharp" registration agents) and many more (mostly working class folk) never get "on" at all.

Agency Changes and New Appointments.

Wrekin: Mr. Frank Organ has resigned his post as full time agent and transferred to Deptford. At the time of going to press the vacancy had not been filled.

Colchester: Mr. P. F. Pollard has resigned his post as full time agent and transferred to North Paddington. At the time of going to press the vacancy had not been filled.

Holland-with-Boston: Mr. H. St. Dunstan White has resigned his post as full time agent and transferred to Swindon. At the time of going to press the vacancy had not been filled.

Smethwick: The address of Mr. J. J. Stonier, the new agent (late of Swindon) is Unity House, Coopers Lane, Smethwick.

Swindon: Mr. H. St. Dunstan White has been appointed full-time agent. Address: William Morris Labour Hall, Regent Street, Swindon.

Deptford: Mr. Frank Organ has been appointed full time agent. Address: 435 New Cross Road, London, S.E.14.

Paddington North: Mr. Percy Pollard has been appointed full time agent. Address: 398 Harrow Road, London, W.9.

Rossendale: Mr. Jack Worthy (late Cleveland Division) has been appointed full time agent. Address: 255 Bacup Road, Cloughfold, Rossendale, Lancs.

The following changes of addresses have been notified to us:—

Mrs. H. Fawcett, Woman Organiser, Midland Area. Present address: 116 Stuart Road, Yardley, Birmingham.

Mr. L. Fothergill, Labour Agent, Central Hackney. Present address: 217 Queen's Road, Dalston, London, E.8.

PENCILS!!!

Ah! the very thing. Advertise coming events profitably. Pencils with special imprints for Bazaars, Election and Branch Funds—for samples (2d.) write

SIMON BIRKBECK, Keswick

ELECTION LAW FOR THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS.

By GEORGE HORWILL, B.Sc. (Econ.)

At the request of several readers we again reprint the summary of Election Law for County Council and District Council Elections which appeared in our issues preceding the County Council Elections for 1922 and 1925.

ELECTION LAW FOR COUNTY COUNCILS.

DATE OF ELECTIONS.

(a) County Councils usually retire every third year.

(b) The ordinary day of election must be such day between March 1st and March 8th as may be fixed by the County Council. If no day is fixed within six weeks of March 8th then the date must be March 8th.

NOMINATION.

(a) NOMINATION PAPERS. Every candidate must be nominated in writing by (1) a proposer; (2) a seconder; and (3) eight other local Government electors in the electoral division.

No person must subscribe to a nomination in or for more than one ward (i.e., electoral division), or for more candidates than there are vacancies.

The signature on the nomination papers must correspond to the names of these persons on the register, and in case a name is spelt wrongly on the register it is advisable for the signatory to sign his name as it is there spelt.

(b) DELIVERY OF NOMINATION PAPERS. Each nomination paper must be delivered either (1) personally by the candidate, or (2) by his proposer or seconder (but not by an agent), at a place fixed by the returning officer seven days before the day of the election, before 5 p.m.

(c) WITHDRAWALS. A Candidate can withdraw after nomination not later than 2 p.m. on the day following the last day for the delivery of nomination papers.

(d) OBJECTIONS. Between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on the day for withdrawals the returning officer must attend the place fixed to hear any objections (which must be made in writing) to the nominations.

The candidate may appoint a representative to attend the proceedings for objections. This appointment must be made and delivered to the place fixed

by the returning officer by 5 p.m. on the last day for the delivery of nominations.

Only the candidate and his representative may attend the proceedings.

Matters concerning the qualifications of candidates cannot be decided at these proceedings.

APPOINTMENT OF AGENTS.

(a) **FOR PAYMENT.** One polling agent for each polling station and one clerk or messenger for every thousand voters, with the right to a minimum of two clerks or messengers, may be appointed by the candidate for payment.

(b) **WITHOUT PAYMENT.** Agents to witness the counting of votes and an unlimited number for various other purposes may be appointed by the candidate without payment.

(c) **WHEN TO APPOINT.** The names and addresses of polling and counting agents must be transmitted to the returning officer at least one clear day before the opening of the poll.

EXPENSES OF ELECTION.

(a) **AMOUNT ALLOWED.** The maximum expenditure allowed is £25 where the number of voters does not exceed 500. Where this number is exceeded an additional twopence for each voter in excess of 500 is allowed. In joint candidatures the amount of each is reduced one-fourth.

(b) **COMMITTEE ROOMS.** One committee room may be hired for every 2,000 voters or part thereof.

(c) **AGENTS PAID.** See heading "Appointments of Agents."

(d) **ACCOUNTS.** (1) Tradesmen, etc., must send in bills to the candidate for expenses incurred within 14 days after the election, and these must be paid within 21 days.

(2) Every agent employed must send in writing to the candidate a list of expenses incurred within 23 days.

(a) The candidate must send in a complete list of his election expenses to the Town Clerk within 28 days of the election. All bills and receipts for sums of 20/- must accompany the statement. A declaration in the form of the Fourth Schedule to the Municipal Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Act, 1884, must also accompany the statement.

ELECTION LAW FOR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL, RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL, AND BOARD OF GUARDIANS ELECTIONS.

DATE OF ELECTIONS.

(a) Elections for Board of Guardians and Urban or Rural District Councils are usually fixed to take place on the first Monday in April, or if that should be Easter Monday, then the last Monday in March.

NOMINATION.

(a) **NOMINATION PAPERS.** The nomination paper must contain the candidate's name in full, his, or her, place of abode, and description (i.e., trade or profession).

Every candidate must be nominated in writing by (1) a proposer; (2) a seconder. This is sufficient, as the names of eight other burgesses are not required as is the case in a County Council or Municipal Election.

(b) **DELIVERY OF NOMINATION PAPERS.** Each nomination must be sent in to the returning officer not later than noon on the Thursday following the day on which notice of election was given.

(c) **WITHDRAWALS.** Any candidate may withdraw not later than noon on the second Tuesday following the day on which notice of election was given.

(d) **VALIDITY OF NOMINATION PAPER.** The returning officer decides the validity of the nomination paper and his decision is final. He cannot, however, decide the qualifications of the candidate, only the nomination paper. There is no provision for objections as is the case in Municipal and County Council elections.

APPOINTMENT OF AGENTS.

(a) **COUNTING AGENTS.** Each candidate has a right of appointing one. More are usually appointed, but it is not legally enforceable except in certain cases, e.g., Metropolitan Borough Council elections.

The appointment of a counting agent must be transmitted to the returning officer one clear day at least before the opening of the poll.

(b) **POLLING AGENTS.** If there are only two candidates, each candidate has a right to appoint one agent for each polling station. If the number of candidates exceed two, then any number of the candidates, but not less than one-third, may agree together to appoint one agent for each polling station, and no more can be appointed. The appointment of a polling agent must be delivered to the returning officer at least two clear days before

the opening of the poll. A polling agent may be paid.

(c) VARIOUS. An unlimited number of agents for various purposes may be appointed.

EXPENSES OF ELECTION.

The Local Government Act, 1894, excludes expenses in the above elections from the limits imposed on other local elections by the Municipal Elections Act, 1884.

(a) There is no limit to the expenses incurred by the candidate.

(b) There is no time limit within which election accounts must be paid.

(c) No return of election expenses has to be made to the returning officer, or other person, by the candidate.

This, it will be seen, is very different from what is required in County Council and ordinary Borough elections.

LOCAL NEWSPAPER MEMS.

The King's Norton (Birmingham) Divisional Labour Party is yet another to perceive the advantages of possessing its own local press organ. The "King's Norton Labour News"—a four-page gratis journal—has now made its appearance, and has been well edited and printed. There is a guaranteed circulation of 8,000 copies monthly and the paper ought to prove the means of making this seat safe for Labour.

Address: "King's Norton Labour News," c/o Mr. George Morris, 1393 Pershore Road, Stirchley, Birmingham.

The Stourbridge Division, not to be behind, are launching "The Midland Forward" early in March. The paper, which is to sell at one penny, will contain Parliamentary, Local Council and general Political News, Local News and Notes, Propaganda Facts and Figures, Reports of the activities of Local Labour Parties, Trade Unions, etc, articles on political, economic and educational matters, the general news of the district, etc.—a real, live publication.

Advertisement Rates are:— 2/- per col. inch.; 12/6 per half-col. of 8 ins.; £1 per full col. of 16 ins.—for each issue.

Address: "The Midland Forward," c/o Councillor S. T. Melsom, St. Kenelms, Moat Road, Warley, near Birmingham.

We thank the sender for a copy of the "Labour Standard"—the Edinburgh Labour Weekly. Overshadowed, of course, by its big brother from Glasgow, this paper is rarely seen south of the Tweed. It nevertheless has pep and go and its eight pages are full of Labour activity—and advertisements. The paper sells at one penny.

Address: The "Labour Standard," 5 Hillside Crescent, Edinburgh.

So "The Citizen" is to be revived—if the movement shows willing. The Labour Party, under date 1st February, has sent out a circular to all local organisations enclosing a specimen of a proposed new 4 pp. octavo fly "leaflet" which the L.P. contemplates publishing provided sufficient regular orders are secured. As the sample shows "The Citizen" will contain two pages of short light paragraphs of propaganda matter and two pages of matter on topical political subjects. The price will be 8/6 per 1,000, carr. paid.

We venture to clear away the impression that the leaflet matter published on pp. 3 and 4 of the specimen is the sort of matter usually to be supplied. This we believe is not so, but these notes will be topical and well-edited. We cordially hope the old "Citizen's" grandson will receive a great welcome. After all, it only needs one hundred Local Parties to take 5,000 copies each (at a cost of £2 2s. 6d—why not knock off the 2/6 as an inducement?) to leap into half-a-million at once. Here then is "the little paper with the punch"—perhaps with far more pungent possibilities than its grandpa. We believe these little papers are read where a larger paper is thrown away. Is there any Party that if it really examines its resources, and its possible resources, cannot afford 10/- per week to secure 60,000 punches in one year?

TO BAZAAR WORKERS.

Bazaar Secretaries and other Organisers are invited to write for price lists and samples of High-Class Perfumes, etc. Eau-de-Cologne, Lavender Water, Genuine Otto Perfumes, Sachets, Face Powders, etc. Ready Sales, substantial profits.

R. T. HARRISON,
34 Corrie Rd., Clifton, Manchester

The Pencarbon Co. Ltd.

"Familiar in our mouths as Household Words" well describes the name of The Pencarbon Co., Ltd., of Zanetic Works, Duncan Road, Leicester, makers of the famous Zanetic pen carbon paper.

But not all the specialities of this firm are so well known to Labour offices as they might be. The output of the Pencarbon Co., Ltd., embraces almost every necessity for a go-ahead and really live movement bent on publicity. The market, of course, knows many difficulties, but Pencarbon offers a choice, from the simplest Rolo machine which, selling at 65/- to 95/-, turns out 1,000 beautifully duplicated copies from typewritten, drawn or written "copy" (this is a self-inking model), to the "Rodertal Office Printing Machine," which is more than a duplicator, and is in fact an up-to-date printer's outfit brought into the realm of office use. This machine prints from actual type, and takes blocks of any size or finish. The output is 1,500 copies an hour, and the machine is supplied either for table use or on its own stand. The Rodertal prints circulars, notices, postcards, office stationery and a wide range of everyday requirements. It saves its own cost.

The Write-Easy typewriter is another Pencarbon speciality, selling at £3 10s. or with additional equipment at £3 16s. This machine has 84 characters, a normal width carriage and takes up to six carbon copies. Our readers will be well advised to send for further lists or a visit from a representative.

A Bazaar Hint.

Of course, our readers will be grateful for a little tip for their bazaars. The perfume stall is generally a most paying one because the profit is good, and if bazaar promoters deal with Mr. R. T. Harrison, whose advertisement appears in the "L.O.," the quality will be found good also, as we have found from personal experience. All the goods are tastefully done up, and with some attention to art dressings for the stall there will be few that will so combine attraction and profit.

Another hint is pencils. These *always* sell and give a good return. Again our advertisement columns tell where to order.

NEW CODIFIED REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ORDER.

R.P. 134.

Every agent, and all concerned with registration, will welcome the publication this month of a new codified Representation of the People Order embodying all additions, omissions and substitutions made by Order in Council down to February 7th, 1928.

The last codification was published in 1920 as R.P. 109. The new Order is published as R.P. 134 and the interim numbers of course covered many matters of vital importance.

The new Order runs to 72 pages and is priced at 1/6 and may be obtained through any stationer. No agent or Party ought to be without it, for the information is vital to a knowledge of the current regulations concerning Registration, Absent Voters, Proxy and Postal Voting, and a large number of sundry matters.

PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements under this heading are inserted at the special rate of twenty-four words for 2s., and 6d. for each additional six words, or less. Cash must accompany order. Three insertions are charged at the rate of two-and-a-half. Displayed advertisements, prepaid, are charged 4s. per inch, with special discount for a series.

Duplicating Paper, 1/9 per ream; Bank typing paper 10d., 1/6 and 2/6, per ream.—Reynolds, Labour Printer, Ripley, Derbys.

Dixon's 2d. pencils, 3 degrees only H, HH and F, 6/9 per gross. Sample dozen, 8d.—Reynolds, Ripley, Derbys.

500 Folding Membership Cards, 14/6; 1,000 22/6.—Reynolds, Labour Printer, Ripley, Derbys.

THE "Daily Herald" 27/12/27: "The Stepney Labour Times is a penny monthly. The sooner it is a penny weekly the better. Well printed and well illustrated this little paper should be a real asset to Labour locally."—Reynolds, The Labour Printer, Ripley, Derbys, prints this and others. Your enquiries solicited.